

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 USUN N 01265 01 OF 02 061655Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12 NEA-10
OIC-02 AGRE-00 DOTE-00 HEW-06 HUD-02 INT-05
AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 SOE-02 COME-00 EB-08 EPA-04
INR-10 L-03 NSF-02 NSAE-00 SS-15 SP-02 DOE-15
PA-02 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 ICAE-00 /157 W
-----019887 061730Z /47

O 061624Z APR 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0497
INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 01265

NAIROBI FOR PERMREP

HUD FOR RASSIAS

E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS: UN, AORG
SUBJECT: COMMISSION ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS - FIRST TWO DAYS

SUMMARY: THE INITIAL TWO DAYS OF THE FIRST SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS HAVE BEEN PRIMARILY CONCERNED WITH PROCEDURAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL QUESTIONS. THE WEO GROUP HAS ACHIEVED CONSIDERABLE CONSENSUS ON THE NEED FOR CAREFUL UNIFICATION OF THE PRINCIPAL UN HUMAN SETTLEMENTS COMPONENTS INTO THE NEW HABITAT CENTRE AND TO AVOID DUPLICATION OF PROGRAMS. THERE HAS BEEN CONSIDERABLE IRRITATION OVER LACK OF CLARITY ABOUT PERSONNEL AND BUDGETARY RESOURCES THAT WILL BE AVAILABLE TO HABITAT CENTRE AS RESULT OF CONSOLIDATION OF SECRETARIAT UNITS. SOME DELEGATIONS HAVE INDICATED CONCERN ABOUT THE CENTRE'S FUTURE FINANCIAL RESOURCES. A DRAFTING GROUP HAS BEEN CHARGED TO PREPARE A DRAFT DECISION PAPER ON ORGANIZATIONAL UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 USUN N 01265 01 OF 02 061655Z

AND SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES FOR FORMAL DISCUSSION ON THURSDAY AND FRIDAY. EXTRANEIOUS POLITICAL ISSUES WHICH PLAGUED THE VANCOUVER HABITAT CONFERENCE, SUCH AS PARTICIPATION BY THE PLO, HAVE BEEN ABSENT. END SUMMARY.

1. THE FIRST SESSION OF THE UN COMMISSION ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS CONVENED AT 3:30 P.M., APRIL 3. ECOSOC

SECRETARY DIEGO CORDOVEZ READ A BRIEF WELCOMING SPEECH FROM SYG WALDHEIM, WHICH INCLUDED ASSURANCES THAT THE NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE CENTRE FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS WOULD BE NAMED SHORTLY.

2. SWEDISH AMBASSADOR-AT-LARGE GOETE SVENSON, WHO HAD BROAD SUPPORT FROM BOTH WEO AND GROUP OF 77, ELECTED CHAIRMAN BY ACCLAMATION. VICE CHAIRMANSHIPS WENT TO N. W. MBEKCOUI (MALAWI), G. VALNER ONJAS (MEXICO) AND A. JEDRASZKO (POLAND) THE ASIAN GROUP WAS CAUGHT UNAWARES AND HAD NOT AGREED UPON A CANDIDATE FOR RAPPOREUR, IN PART BECAUSE THE PRINCIPAL COUNTRY DELEGATIONS WERE LED BY UN PERMANENT MISSION STAFF. BY THE MIDDLE OF THE SECOND DAY CONSENSUS WAS FINALLY REACHED AND J. L. VILLA (PHILIPPINES) WAS ELECTED RAPPOREUR.

3. THE HEADS OF THE THREE PRINCIPAL COMPONENTS TO BE COMBINED INTO THE NEW HABITAT CENTRE FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS --THE UN HABITAT AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS FOUNDATION, THE CENTRE FOR HOUSING, BUILDING AND PLANNING AND VISION HABITAT (THE AUDIO-VISUAL CENTRE IN VANCOUVER)--PRESENTED BRIEF STATUS REPORTS ON PRESENT OPERATIONS, SPOKE OF THE NEED FOR CLARIFICATION OF PROGRAM PRIORITIES AND APPROVAL OF THEIR MEDIUM TERM PLANS AND FUTURE FUNDING REQUIREMENTS. UNHHSF ADMINISTRATOR QUINTANA WARNED OF A POSSIBLE FINANCIAL CRISIS UNLESS ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL RESOURCES FOR THE UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 USUN N 01265 01 OF 02 061655Z

FOUNDATION ARE OBTAINED BEFORE THE END OF 1978. THE DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF UNEP SPOKE TO THE NEED FOR CLOSE COORDINATION BETWEEN UNEP AND THE NEW CENTER, NOTING

THAT UNEP CURRENTLY HAS THE AUTHORIZATION OF ITS GOVERNING COUNCIL TO COMMIT APPROXIMATELY \$5.3 MILLION TO HUMAN SETTLEMENTS RELATED ACTIVITIES. A SERIOUS DEFICIENCY IN THE FOUR PRESENTATIONS WAS THE LACK OF COORDINATION AMONG THE PROPOSALS PUT FORTH, UNDERSCORING THE URGENT NEED FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF AN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE HABITAT CENTRE.

4. FOLLOWING THE REPORTS, THE AUSTRALIAN DELEGATION, JOINED BY THE CANADIANS, PROPOSED THAT AGENDA ITEM 2 BE SPLIT TO PERMIT DISCUSSION OF THE AGENDA SEPARATELY FROM THE ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS OF THE COMMISSION AND OF THE CENTRE AND THAT ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS BE TAKEN UP IN INFORMAL SESSION. THE PROPOSAL WAS ADOPTED.

5. DUE IN PART TO THE LACK OF INFORMATION RESULTING FROM THE SECRETARIAT'S LATE PRESENTATION OF THE DOCUMENTS AND INADEQUATE PREPARATION BY DELEGATIONS, THE DISCUSSIONS

IN THE FIRST THREE SESSION TENDED TO BE POORLY FOCUSED AND STRAYED INTO SUBSTANCE AS WELL AS ORGANIZATIONAL ISSUES. SEVERAL DELEGATIONS STRESSED THE NEED FOR BETTER INFORMATION ON CURRENT PERSONNEL AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES TO BE TRANSFERRED TO THE NEW HABITAT CENTRE AND DEFINITION OF THE COMMISSION'S BUDGETARY ROLE. KENYA, ECUADOR, THE NETHERLANDS AND TANZANIA MENTIONED THE NEED FOR NEW FINANCIAL RESOURCES.

6. IN AN EFFORT TO GIVE BETTER STRUCTURE TO THE DISCUSSIONS, THE USDEL ON TUESDAY MORNING PRESENTED A BRIEF STATEMENT (COPY TO THE DEPARTMENT BY AIRGRAM) SETTING FORTH THE TASKS THAT MUST BE ADDRESSED AND ENCOURAGING THE COM-

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 USUN N 01265 02 OF 02 061658Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12 NEA-10
OIC-02 AGRE-00 DOTE-00 HEW-06 HUD-02 INT-05
AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 SOE-02 COME-00 EB-08 EPA-04
INR-10 L-03 NSF-02 NSAE-00 SS-15 SP-02 DOE-15
PA-02 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 ICAE-00 /157 W
-----019930 061728Z /47

O 061624Z APR 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0498
INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 01265

NAIROBI FOR PERMREP

HUD FOR RASSIAS

MISSION TO GIVE THE FUTURE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR THE AUTHORITY AND FLEXIBILITY HE WILL NEED TO DEAL WITH THE DIFFICULT TRANSITIONAL PERIOD BEFORE THE COMMISSION'S SECOND SESSION IN 1979. THE TASKS, WHICH WERE ECHOED IN LESS CONCISE FORM BY SEVERAL DELEGATIONS OVER THE FIRST TWO DAYS, INCLUDE THE URGENT NEED FOR THE SYG TO APPOINT AN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR; THE IMPORTANCE OF CONSOLIDATING THE COMPONENT UNITS INTO A TIGHTLY KNIT HABITAT CENTRE, THE NECESSITY OF CLOSE COOPERATION AND TWO-WAY INFORMATION FLOW BETWEEN THE CENTRE AND THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS; FORMULA-

TION OF AN INTEGRATED HUMAN SETTLEMENTS PROGRAM WHICH
CONCENTRATES ON HIGHLY SELECTIVE AND ACHIEVABLE PRIORITIES;
AND THE NEED TO DEVELOP A COMMON STRATEGY WITH A LIMITED
AND SELECTIVE LIST OF OBJECTIVES FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS
ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE UN. IN ADDITION TO THESE THEMES,
SEVERAL DELEGATIONS STRESSED THE NEED TO PROMOTE STRONG
NATIONAL AND REGIONAL HUMAN SETTLEMENTS PROGRAMS AND THE
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 USUN N 01265 02 OF 02 061658Z

DESIRABILITY OF ESTABLISHING VERY CLOSE LINKAGES TO UNDP.

7. EARLY TUESDAY THE CHAIRMAN CALLED FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT
OF A SMALL DRAFTING GROUP COMPOSED OF TWO COUNTRIES FROM
EACH REGIONAL GROUP AND UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF POLAND
TO PREPARE A PAPER FOR DECISION ON THURSDAY COVERING THE
ORGANIZATIONAL ISSUES. FRG AND AUSTRALIA, NOMINATED BY
THE U.S. IN THE WEO CAUCUS, WERE CHOSEN TO REPRESENT THE
WEO GROUP. AFRICA IS REPRESENTED BY KENYA AND BURUNDI,
LATIN AMERICA BY MEXICO AND ARGENTINA, EASTERN EUROPE BY
THE GDR AND USSR. INDIA AND YUGOSLAVIA ALSO ARE ON BOARD.
AT THE CLOSE OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL ISSUES DIS-
CUSSION LATE TUESDAY, HOWEVER, THE CHAIR ASKED FOR GUIDANCE
ON WHETHER TO PROCEED TO DISCUSSION OF THE SUBSTANTIVE
ISSUES COVERED IN AGENDA ITEMS 3 TO 5, OR TO REFER THE
ISSUE TO THE DRAFTING GROUP. IN THE INTEREST
OF MAKING FASTER PROGRESS THAN APPEARED PROBABLE IN THE
PLENARY, THE COMMISSION REMANDED DISCUSSION OF SUBSTANTIVE
ISSUES TO THE DRAFTING GROUP WHICH BEGAN ITS WORK TUESDAY
EVENING. NO FORMAL SESSION ARE PLANNED FOR WEDNESDAY
WHILE THE OPEN-ENDED DRAFTING GROUP GOES ABOUT
ITS WORK. A DRAFT DECISION PAPER ON ORGANIZATIONAL AND
SUBSTANTIVE MATTERS WILL BE PRESENTED THURSDAY MORNING FOR
THE RESUMED FORMAL SESSIONS. USDEL IS PARTICIPATING AS AN
OBSERVER IN THE DRAFTER'S EXERCISE TO ENSURE US VIEWS
ARE HEARD. LEONARD

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978USUNN01265
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780149-0249
Format: TEL
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780483/aaaacsti.tel
Line Count: 209
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8cb1d4b4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3048173
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COMMISSION ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS - FIRST TWO DAYS SUMMARY: THE INITIAL TWO DAYS OF THE FIRST SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS HAVE BEEN PRIMARIL
TAGS: AORG, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8cb1d4b4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014